



2012 DR 3809/DI aa

Second Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2012)

SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the preservation of Gary Theodore Roosevelt's High School Athletic Program.

Whereas, Gary Roosevelt High School opened in 1930 and was Gary's exclusive school for black students;

Whereas, since 1950, Roosevelt has won 25 state titles in boys' basketball, boys' cross country, boys' track and girls' track;

Whereas, two state basketball championships and two state runner-up banners hang in the gym at Gary Roosevelt;

Whereas, Gary Roosevelt has several notable alumni athletes including: George Taliaferro, the first African-American drafted in the NFL; Glenn Robinson, a professional basketball All-Star; Lee Calhoun, a two-time Olympic gold medalist; Chuck Adkins, an Olympic boxing gold medalist; and Dick Barnett, who played 14 seasons as a professional basketball player and won titles with the Knicks;

Whereas, Gary Roosevelt is one of seven Indiana schools in its sixth year of academic probation;



2012 DR 3809/DI aa+

Whereas, The Indiana Department of Education selected EdisonLearning, a turnaround school operator, to develop a four year improvement plan that will be implemented starting next year;

Whereas, EdisonLearning has said the future of Gary Roosevelt Panthers' athletic program is "up in the air" which leaves the well-known athletic program in question;

Whereas, the communications director of the Indiana Department of Education stated that "EdisionLearning walked into this with their eyes wide open, understanding they would be operating the school next year. There is nothing that precludes the turnaround school operators from including sports and other extracurricular activities in their written plans and goals for State Board approval." Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Indiana Senate calls upon EdisonLearning to 2 take into consideration the rich tradition and history of Gary Roosevelt 3 High School in determining the future of its athletic program.
- 4 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to 5 transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Gary Community School
- 6 Corporation, EdisonLearning, the Indiana Department of Education and
- 7 the Indiana State Board of Education.

8

